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9 October 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: 8 October Meeting of the "Indochina Steering Group"

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1. [REDACTED] mentioned problems stemming from fabrications of intelligence reporting by Laotian guerrilla teams. I gathered this involved teams covering logistics activities in the panhandle area. [REDACTED] 25X1A
[REDACTED] tired and in the process of a change of command, has been lacklustre in responding to this problem. (Action: OCI/FE. Are we well aware of this? Have the fabrications affected our reporting?)

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2. [REDACTED] (filling in for [REDACTED]) is strongly of the view that it is time to come up with another inter-Agency finding on Laos order of battle, on an all-source basis. [REDACTED] asked if it wouldn't make more sense to do this to cover all of Indochina. [REDACTED] thought this would be horrendously difficult. [REDACTED] noted that the response to NSSM 99 would contain O/B data on all three countries. He also said DIA will host an SVN O/B conference (to include CINCPAC and MACV) in mid-November. 25X1A

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3. [REDACTED] noted that the NSC Review Group will meet on 13 October to go over responses to NSSM 99. WSAG will meet the same day to go over funding problems posed by the Fulbright amendment. (The DCI wrote to Kissinger to point out the impact on our operations. HAK returned from Europe to find the letter and phoned General Cushman, then Acting, and angrily complained the White House had not been sufficiently warned. According to [REDACTED] it had been agreed that DOD would arrange for changes in the amendment but DOD did not follow through.) 25X1A

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4. I reported that we will proceed to re-assess views concerning Chinese Communist policy in SEA. We want to take a look at findings deriving from current OER studies of the sanctuary documents. We will finish the reassessment in about six weeks.

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5. [REDACTED] said they expect to issue a "first report" soon on [REDACTED] OER believes it will be able to isolate the amount of the "FARK cut" from the supplies. OER believes also it will be able to develop the costs incurred by the Chinese. This comes from knowledge of the value of rice, the trucking company's transportation costs, and the amounts of certain Hong Kong bank deposits.

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6. [REDACTED] will be coming to Washington for a week or so at the end of this month. The Steering Group, it was agreed, will orchestrate requirements to be served up. He has heretofore been questioned on the supply problem. Pretty clearly he has been privy to other aspects (political) of the Chinese relationship and he is to be drawn out on these. DDP/FE will probably not advertise in the Pentagon that [REDACTED] will be here. [REDACTED] believes only two or three people in the US government are aware of his reporting and the debriefing will be handled quietly and tightly. (Action: OCI/FE to begin developing a list of requirements and questions. I would like to table them at the Steering Group meeting of 22 October.)

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[REDACTED]
Deputy Director of Current Intelligence

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